" I do hope you will like them. If you don't, you must really pretend to, else I shall be heartbroken. And if I knew what time you would come and which day, I would get Margaret here.

" I have had them about four years—long before I knew you and now they are done and I can hardly believe it. But tell me pretty, pacifying lies and say you like them, even if you find them rubbish.

"Your devoted and affectionate

"E. B.-J."

I went the next day to see the pictures with Edy. It was the " Briar Rose " series. They were *beautiful* The lovely Lady Granby (now Duchess of Rutland) was there-reminding me, as always, of the reflectipn of something in water on a misty day. When she was Miss Violet Lindsay she did a drawing of me as Portia in the doctor's robes, which is I think very like me, as well as having all the charming qualities of her well-known pencil portraits.

The artists all loved the Lyceum, not only the old school, but the young ones, who could have been excused for think-ing that Henry Irving and I were a couple of old fogeys ! William Nicholson and James Pryde, who began by working together as " The Beggarstaff Brothers," and in this period did a poster of Henry for " Don Quixote " and another for "Becket," were as enthusiastic about the Lyceum as Burne-Jones had been. Mr. Pryde has done an admirable portrait of me as Nance Oldfield, and his " Irving as Dubosc" shows the most extraordinary insight.

<c I have really tried to draw his *personality"* he wrote

to me thanking me for having said I liked the picture (it was done after Henry's death). . . ." Irving's eyes in Dubosc always made my hair stand on end, and I paid great attention to the fact that one couldn't exactly say whether they were *shut* or *open.* Very terrifying. . . ."